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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

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A. ISSUES AT QM FOOD SUPPLY INSTALLATION

1. Procedures

the Prague/Dejvice Quartermaster Food Supply Installation and to draw non-perishable foodstuffs for the airbase there. This QM Supply Installation was serviced by civilians, but each supply warehouse was supervised by a career Army NCO (poddůstojník z povolání). Source was issued groceries for the Airbase Consolidated Mess Hall and for EM and career NCO's and for officers not on separate rations. These were issued at various supply warehouses, most of which were near railroad tracks.¹ These supplies were loaded into railroad boxcars (usually two of them) after being checked off against the bill of lading, whereupon the boxcars were

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sealed. In two days, they arrived at Milovice civilian railroad station, where soldiers unloaded them. At this stage each item had to be checked again against the bill of lading.

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[redacted] other unidentified soldiers (all in OD uniforms with unidentified shoulderboards) at the Quartermaster Food Supply Installation drawing various foods for their respective installations. These soldiers were from the following cities:

Pisek (N 49-18, E 14-09)

Slany (N 50-14, E 14-06)

Milovice (N 50-14, E 14-54)

Pardubice (N 50-02, E 15-47)

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[redacted] each military installation drawing food from this supply installation had a certain day of every month designated for issue of their supplies, since [redacted] the same individuals there. From this [redacted] the installation served still other unidentified units or localities on days other than [redacted] issue date, which was always the fourth day of each month.

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Supplies for unidentified tank regiments and two other unidentified troop units stationed at Milovice military installation were also drawn on the fourth day of every month. Such supplies were loaded into three other railroad boxcars.² [redacted] other units stationed at Milovice were issued their rations at some other designated dates.

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2. Types and Quantities Issued

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Following are details on sizes, packaging and the quantities in which groceries at the Quartermaster Food Supply Installation in Prague/Dejvice were issued:

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<u>Item</u>	<u>Manner of Packing</u>	<u>Total Weight of Each Container</u>	<u>(items were issued monthly unless otherwise indicated)</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Sugar	Cotton sacks (bearing inscription in Russian)	100 kg	6 sacks	
Sugar drops (hard candy)	Paper sacks	30 kg	6 sacks	
Powdered milk	Paper sacks	25 kg	1 sack	
Dried peas and beans	Paper sacks	75 kg	6 sacks	
Dehydrated potatoes	Paper sacks	25 kg	8 sacks	
Rice	Cotton sacks	80 kg	2 sacks	
Tea	Paper sacks	5 kg	1 sack	
Poppy-seed	Paper sacks	75 kg	1 sack	
Flour	Cotton sacks	75 kg	60 sacks	
Salt	Paper sacks	50 kg	10 sacks	
Noodles	Paper sacks	25 kg	20 sacks	
Compressed coffee squares	Rations of compressed coffee in the form of squares about 4 x 4 x 1 1/2 cm each, with sugar included within them, were issued in cardboard boxes containing five smaller packages with 100 rations of compressed coffee in each package.	Unk	Unk	Two such coffee squares were allotted each man per day at Mlada. The inscription on the boxes read, "Military Coffee Preserves" ("Vojenske Kavovinove Konzervy") Kolin, Czechoslovakia.

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Quantity Issued to

(items were issued monthly unless otherwise indicated) Remarks

<u>Item</u>	<u>Manner of Packing</u>	<u>Total Weight of Each Container</u>	<u>Quantity Issued to</u> (items were issued monthly unless otherwise indicated)	<u>Remarks</u>
Cheese	Wheel-shaped lots	12 kg	50 wheels	
Cheese	Tin cans circular in shape, painted O.D. Cans were about 6 cm high and about 6 cm in diameter, packed in cardboard boxes, each box containing 250 rations.	Unk	4 large boxes	
Meat (beef and pork)	Tin cans (unpainted) were packed in cardboard boxes, each box containing 100 cans. Cans were about 6 cm high and about 6 cm in diameter.	Unk	8 large boxes	
Fruit sauces	Tin cans (unpainted). Packed in cardboard boxes, each box containing 10 cans. Cans were about 15 cm high and about 10 cm in diameter.	Unk	70 large boxes	
Biscuits	Cardboard boxes. Each contained small packages. Each box was marked: "Military Biscuits" ("Vojensky Suchar").	10 kg	20 to 30 boxes	
Bacon	Unwrapped	15 - 20 kg	About 30 slabs	The bacon was never loaded into boxcars, but taken to Mlada Airbase truck.
Spices (red and black pepper)	Paper sacks	Red pepper - 15 kg Black pepper - 5 kg	In quantity authorized	

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<u>Item</u>	<u>Manner of Packing</u>	<u>Total Weight of Each Container</u>	<u>Quantity Issued to</u> (Items were issued monthly unless otherwise indicated)	<u>Remarks</u>
Syrup	Glass bottles	1 liter	400 bottles	
Raisins	Wooden boxes	7 kg	1 box (issued only at Christmas)	
Coffee beans	Paper sacks	5 kg	Unk to source	
Marmalade	Wooden boxes	15 - 20 kg	40 boxes	
Jelly (made out of such fruits as plums, cherries, gooseberries and blueberries)	Tin cans, painted O.D. Cans, about 30 cm high and about 20 cm in diameter.	Unk	25 cans	
Lard	Wooden boxes	25 kg	20 boxes	
Vinegar	Wooden barrels	50 liters	6 barrels, once every three months.	
Candles	Cardboard boxes, containing smaller boxes. Each small box contained 10 candles. Each candle was about 20 cm long and 3 cm in diameter.	Unk	Unit was issued 10 boxes	Every soldier had, always, one candle in his possession, as a part of a standard equipment.
Soap (for personal use)	Packed in cardboard boxes, containing 100 (15 x 5 x 3 cm) cakes.	Unk	12 boxes	
Shaving soap	Packed in cardboard boxes, containing 100 pieces of soap. One piece of soap was issued monthly to every soldier.	Unk	Unk	Tobacco and cigarettes were not an item of issue.

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B. PROCUREMENT OF PERISHABLE FOODSTUFFS

The Mlada airbase EM consolidated mess was allotted every month 300,000 crowns for purchase of the following perishable food items. They were procured from various local or neighborhood National Enterprise stores by a civilian purchasing agent. These items of perishable food were paid for every month through credit vouchers.

1. Potatoes

From 600 to 800 kg were purchased from the Wholesale House (VDP-Velkodistribucni podnik) in Lysa nad Labem (N 50-12, E 14-50), every month, from June to the end of November. They were loaded into gunny sacks, each weighing about 60 kg. During the winter months, December to the end of May, potatoes were drawn from the supply kept in the kitchen cellar, which amounted to the equivalent of about four boxcars, each boxcar containing about 600 to 800 kg. When potatoes stored in the cellar were used up, new ones were drawn from a special winter storage place. This was simply a large dugout laid with straw, where potatoes were dumped and again covered with straw and soil. About eight boxcars of potatoes were stored at this outdoor dugout.

2. Milk and Eggs

These were purchased from the "Dairy" ("Mlekarna") enterprise in Nymburk (N 50-11, E 15-03), about six cans of milk were purchased each day. Each can contained about 25 liters. One box containing 360 eggs was purchased twice a week.

3. Fresh Vegetables

These were purchased from an unknown national enterprise store in Milovice (N 50-14, E 14-54). The amounts varied according to needs.

4. Meat

Meat was purchased from the National Enterprise butcher shop in Uvaly (N 50-05, E 14-44). On the average, about 150 kg of meat were purchased daily, except on Thursdays. On Saturday, the supply for Sunday and Monday was brought in, 150 kg of salami for each of the two days.

5. Fresh Fruit

This was purchased from the "Fruta" National Enterprise store in Lovosice (N 50-31, E 14-04). The amounts varied according to seasons and needs.

C. OPERATIONS OF MLADA AIRBASE MESSSES

1. Daily Menu for EM

Following are lists of food items served at the three principal daily meals in the EM's Consolidated Mess,

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a. Breakfast

One slice of cheese
Butter
Marmalade
Black coffee
Black bread (as much as one desired)

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These above-listed foods were served daily. In addition to these, one of the following foods was also served:

<u>Food</u>	<u>Portion for Each Soldier</u>
Bacon	80 grams
Egg	One, hard boiled
Salami	100 grams
Sausage	100 grams
Rozhuda (A mixture of milk, butter, cheese and green peppers)	250 grams
Leco (A mixture of eggs, tomatoes, bacon and green peppers)	250 grams
Coffee buns	Two

b. Dinner

Soup

Potatoes, rice, beans or macaroni, mixed with small pieces of meat.

Cauliflower, head lettuce or cucumbers.

Apricot or cherry sauce, fresh fruit (one or two apples or pears, depending on their size) or pudding.

Meat (approx 10 dkg). This was pork, beef or veal. There were no seconds on meat. Ham was usually served at Sunday dinner.

Black bread. As much was served as one desired.

On Fridays, fish was served about twice a month. On other Fridays an entire head of fried cauliflower or "knedliky", a national specialty similar to dumplings, with marmalade was served to each soldier.

c. Supper

Dumplings, potatoes or beans.

Meat (approx 10 dkg) or fried salami (approx 15 dkg).

Black bread. As much was served as one desired.

the food served at Mlada airbase was good and plentiful. Meat was the only item on which no seconds were to be had.

d. Cold Supper

Once a week, either on Saturday or Sunday nights, a cold supper was served. Each EM received the following items of food on such occasions:

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One small can of cheese, or at times a slice of fresh cheese.

Salami, 100 grams

Hard candy, 100 grams

Two apples (fresh)

Bread, as much as desired.

Coffee, which was served in pitchers at each table

Biscuits (one small package), 100 grams

2. Mobilization Supply of Food

In a building set aside for storage of Mlada airbase mobilization supplies, there was a section reserved for food storage. Regulations prescribed that food sufficient to feed assigned men for three days be kept on hand. This supply was exchanged for freshly issued items every month.

The following items comprised such a mobilization supply of food: potatoes (dehydrated), canned meat, biscuits, coffee, flour, jam, marmalade, milk (powdered), dehydrated vegetables, biscuits, sugar, cheese, bacon, salt, spices, and brandy. These supplies were stored up in same type of containers as they were issued in, i.e., sacks and cardboard boxes. During combat alert exercises (bojovy poplach), these supplies were not loaded into trucks. Instead four airmen and one 3-ton Skoda truck were assigned to stand by. Such supplies were to be loaded in the truck in case of hostilities, but only on orders of the supply officer.

a. Inspection of Mobilization Supply (Food)

The mobilization supply of food was inspected every month by the political officer of the divisional staff or the chief of divisional staff. Sometime in the summer of 1954, a uniformed Soviet Air Force lieutenant colonel (name unknown to source) accompanied by the battalion political officer, the divisional and the battalion commanders, made such an inspection.

A weekly inspection was accomplished by either the battalion CO, who was usually accompanied by the battalion chief of supplies, or else by the battalion political officer or the battalion chief of supplies. In general, the inspecting officers (all Air Force) checked whether the prescribed amount of food was stored up and whether each item was replaced by a fresh supply every month, as prescribed.

b. Marking of Food Supplies

50X1 [] no detailed knowledge on the manner of marking various supply items. However, [] various containers of food commodities being identified by single Arabic numerals followed by single letters. [] no idea 50X1 of what these meant. An example is 3-B or 4-C.

3. Mess Halls

50X1 a. EM's Consolidated Mess

All enlisted airmen of Mlada airbase units received their meals at this consolidated mess. Each unit was fed at a designated time, the entire unit eating at one seating. The approximate seating capacity of the consolidated mess was 250 EM.

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The EM's consolidated mess served so called CH+B norm, which amounted to 2,800 calories daily.

b. Officer's and Career Army NCO's Mess

The officers and career NCO's not on separate rations had a mess hall of their own, which was an annex of the EM's Consolidated Mess. There, approximately 100 officers (non-pilots) and 40 career NCO's, all from the Mlada airbase, took their meals. [redacted] they received the same type of food as was served in the EM's consolidated mess. 50X1

c. Pilot Officer's Mess

Pilot officers not on separate rations (about 120 were assigned to the airbase) ate in a mess hall of their own, where the L-norm was served; the L-norm contained 4,000 calories daily. Food items for this mess hall were purchased at the national enterprise stores.

d. Military Enterprise Kitchen (VZK-Vojenska Zavodni Kuchyne).

The VZK mess hall was open to officers and career NCO's on separate rations. Civilian personnel employed at Mlada airbase could also purchase meals there, if they so desired. Food items for this mess hall were purchased at National Enterprise stores.

4. Details of Mess Hall Operations

a. Weekly Master Menu

A master menu for an entire week was prepared by the local chief of food supply, with guidance from a directive issued by the 1st Air Technical Division Headquarters in Prague. The menus were posted in the mess hall. The calories contained in each meal item were also shown. These menus were strictly adhered to, and source did not recall any deviations from them.

b. Supplementary Rations

Mechanics required to work three hours before reveille or two after taps were entitled to additional food rations. These were served at 1000 and 1600 hours. These additional rations consisted of 10 dkg of salami, three dkg of butter, eight dkg of bacon, tea and tea syrup (1 liter bottle for 15 men) and black bread (as much as one desired).

c. Daily Food Inspection

Food in preparation was examined daily at 1130 hours by a medical officer. He was accompanied by one of the battalion commanders, the chief of supplies and the political officer.

d. Various Types of Norms

50X1 [redacted] the chief of food supplies [redacted] Sr 50X1
Lt Pelikan, that there existed about 12 to 15 types of food norms in the Czechoslovak
Armed Forces. However, [redacted] only the CH+B norm, which was served in the
Consolidated Mess; the L-norm in the Pilot Officers' Mess; the P-norm, served to
paratroopers; and the G-norm. 50X1
[redacted]

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e. Mess Passes and Separate Ration Allowances

Every enlisted airman at the Mlada airbase was issued monthly a mess pass, on which his name and organization were entered. These mess passes were provided with check marks which were punctured upon presentation.

According to source, the per diem for officers and career NCO's on separate rations was 20 crowns.

5. The Food Storage Building, Mlada Airbase

50X1 [redacted] stated that all window panes of the food storage supply building at Mlada airbase were painted over with dark blue paint. [redacted] a regulation at the office of the chief of food supply, [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] which prescribed that windows of food storages were to be painted with the same paint. On one occasion, (date unknown) one of the windows of Mlada airbase food storage supply was broken. After it was replaced, it was also painted over with dark blue paint. The food supply officer made sure that this was accomplished. 50X1

50X1 [redacted] the window panes of the "main warehouse" ("hlavni sklad") at Mlada airbase, where all articles of uniforms were stored, were painted over with white paint (not whitewashed). This, however, was not applicable to unit supply rooms. (The unit supplies carried a very limited number of articles on hand.)

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Comment: [redacted]
training, information as to the reason for painting of window panes in food and clothing supply storage buildings. [redacted] it was done to prevent spoilage of stored articles rather than as a symbol of certain types of supplies. (The same system of painting over window panes of food and clothing supply buildings was followed at the Pilots' Training Center (LU-Latecke ucilista) in Dolny Kubin (W 49-12, E 19-18), [redacted] 50X1
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